

Amendments to the Claims:

This listing of claims will replace all prior versions, and listings of claims in the application:

Listing of Claims:

Claims 1-4 (canceled)

1 5. (New) A method for operating an automatic transmission, having a torque
2 converter and at least one function clutch, of a motor vehicle having an internal combustion
3 engine with a rising torque characteristic in the lower rotational speed range, in particular an
4 internal combustion engine charged by means of a turbocharger, in which method the starting
5 operation is carried out via the torque converter, characterized in that, during the starting of the
6 motor vehicle, the function clutch used in this case is initially induced to slip during a short
7 predetermined period of time until a starting torque which is increased, as compared with idling,
8 has built up.

1 6. (New) The method according to claim 5, characterized in that the
2 predetermined period of time is set at a time of between about 100 and about 1000 ms, in
3 particular of between about 100 and about 250 ms.

1 7. (New) The method according to claim 5, characterized in that the function
2 clutch is induced to slip until a sufficient boost pressure is built up by the turbocharger.

1 8. (New) The method for operating an automatic transmission, having a
2 torque converter and at least one function clutch, of a motor vehicle having an internal
3 combustion engine with a rising torque characteristic in the lower rotational speed range, in
4 particular an internal combustion engine charged by means of a turbocharger, in which method
5 the starting operation is carried out via the torque converter, characterized in that a function
6 clutch is controlled in such a way that the converter characteristic is thereby adapted to the
7 respective dynamic operating point.